

The Civil Air Patrol Cadet Survey

This report describes the findings of a survey of cadets in the Civil Air Patrol. Both Middle School Cadets and Standard (regular) cadets, representing various states were surveyed. The survey was sponsored by The Civil Air Patrol Drug Demand Reduction Program, Maxwell Air Force Base, who contracted with Developmental Research and Programs, Inc., of Seattle, Washington, to conduct the survey.

Conduct of the Survey

Students were surveyed using the *Communities That Care*® Youth Survey. Information on the survey instrument, survey procedures, and survey findings for the Cadets can be found in the following two reports: Standard Cadets Student Survey and Middle School Cadets Student Survey. All procedures detailed in these reports were used in this combination report. No unusual circumstances or patterns of survey responses were found for the participating cadets.

The Survey Sample

Survey plans called for participation of a sample of both Middle School Cadets and Standard Cadets, representing grades 6th- 12th grades. Completed and valid surveys were returned by 283 Middle School Cadets and 336 Standard Cadets. This represents a return rate of 71% of all cadets surveyed and 2.6% of all cadets. To protect student anonymity, grade level findings are not provided when less than 25 students are included in the grade level.

Survey Norms and Comparative Data

Comparisons on the risk and protective factors and substance use are drawn between the Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets, and normative data taken from the *Monitoring the Future* (MTF) survey and the Six-State study. Information concerning both the MTF and Six-State surveys is detailed in both the Middle School Cadet Survey and Standard Cadets Student Survey reports. Tables 1 and 2 compare Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and Six-State students on demographic variables. (All tables are

included in the final pages of this report.) The Middle School Cadets and Standard Cadets were similar to Six-State students in family size and language in the home. Middle School Cadets appeared to differ from Standard Cadets and Six-State students in their average age, ethnic makeup, and family status. Because of the differences between the Middle School and Standard Cadets, particularly in age, differences, the two comparisons between the two groups should be made with some caution. However, the data do provide many useful and illuminating analyses.

Confidence Intervals and Interpretation Survey Results

The precision of survey findings depends in part, on the size of the survey sample. As the size of the sample increases the confidence that survey findings accurately represent the larger student population also increases. Confidence in survey findings is expressed as a confidence interval. A confidence interval is an estimated range of values within which there is a 95% probability that the true population value is located. The confidence interval for this report is $\pm 5\%$ for Middle School Cadets and $\pm 6\%$ for Standard Cadets. For example, 14% of both Middle School and Standard cadets have used inhalants in their lifetime, meaning that the percentage of students who have used inhalants in their lifetime is likely to be between 8%-19%. The calculation of confidence intervals assumes that a valid, representative sample of the Cadet population has been obtained.

As the proportion of students endorsing a particular item approach the extreme values of either 0% or 100% the confidence interval decreases. As another example, only 1% of students reported the use of cocaine in their lifetime. The confidence interval for the prevalence of past 30 day use of cocaine is smaller, approximately $\pm 2\%$. This means that the actual prevalence of past 30-day use of cocaine can be assumed to be approximately zero to three percent.

The Survey Findings

Student Demographics

The number of cadets participating in the survey is presented in Table 1. Table 1 also shows the average grade and age of the students, the average family size, and the percent of families using English as their primary language. (Table 1 is based on only those students providing complete demographic data). Table 1 shows that the average Middle School Cadet was 12.6 years of age. The language spoken at home most often was English (97%), and East Jordan students' families averaged 4.6 members. For Standard Cadets, their average age was 14.6, English was the language most often spoken at home (96%) average family size was 4.3. Table 2 shows the percentage of students who identified themselves as members of different ethnic groups. Whereas a large majority of Standard Cadets (71.3%) were European-American, the majority of Middle School Cadets were African-American (63.6%).

The family status of the students is reported in Table 3. Most Standard Cadets (73.1%) came from two-parent families. Another 24.1% of students came from single-parent families, and the remainder of the students were living either with an adult other than their parents or in a foster situation. Almost one-half of the Middle School Cadets (49.6%) came from one-parent families, 41.1% came from two parent families and the remainder of the students were living either with an adult other than their parents or in a foster situation.

Student Use of Alcohol, Cigarettes, Marijuana, and Inhalants

Table 4 shows the percentage of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and MTF/Six-State students reporting the use of alcohol, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, marijuana, and inhalants. Students were asked about use ever in their lifetime, in the past year, and in the past 30 days. (Past year use is not measured for cigarettes and chewing tobacco). As is typical in student populations, alcohol is the most widely used substance. Overall, alcohol use appears to be similar to lower among Middle School and Standard Cadets as compared to the MTF/Six-State sample. Comparing Middle School and Standard Cadets, alcohol use is higher among the Middle School 7th and 8th grade cadets.

Cigarettes and marijuana are the next most frequently used substances. Overall, about one-third of all cadets have used cigarettes sometime in their lifetime. Less than 10% of all cadets reported using cigarettes in the past 30 days. As is typical in school age populations, the use of chewing tobacco is consistently lower than cigarette use. In comparison to the MTF/Six-State sample, cigarette use among cadets appears to be lower. Middle School Cadets report higher cigarette use, when compared to the same grade level of Standard Cadets.

Marijuana follows the same pattern of use as with alcohol and cigarettes. Lifetime, between 10% and 14% of Cadets have used marijuana. Thirty day use of marijuana was less than 5%. Marijuana use among Standard Cadets is lower than both the MTF/Six-State sample and the Middle School Cadets. Middle School Cadets had similar to slightly higher use of marijuana when compared to the Six-State sample. Inhalant use among all cadets appears to be similar to the MTF/Six-State sample. However, inhalant use among Middle School Cadets is again higher than use among 7th and 8th grade standard cadets.

Student Use of Illicit Drugs Other than Marijuana

Table 5 shows Middle School Cadets and Standard Cadets use of illicit drugs other than marijuana compared with the MTF/Six-State students. As with Table 4, use is reported for three time periods: ever in the student's lifetime, in the past year, and in the past 30 days.

About 20% of all Cadets reported the use of any illicit drug (hashish, LSD, cocaine, crack cocaine, amphetamines, heroin, other narcotics, inhalants, barbiturates, and steroids) in their lifetime. The rates for the individual illicit drugs were much lower. The lower levels of illicit use, as compared to alcohol, cigarettes, and marijuana, is typical of school populations. Rates of specific illicit drug use varied between Middle School and Standard Cadets. Overall, the two groups of cadets were similar in their illicit drug use and similar to lower than the MTF/Six-State sample.

The Prevalence of Antisocial Behavior

A small proportion of Middle School and Standard cadets reported that they had engaged in several different kinds of antisocial behavior within the last year. In general, Middle School Cadets reported a slightly higher rate of delinquent activity than was found for the Standard Cadets. However, with a few grade specific exceptions, both groups were similar to or slightly lower than the Six-State population overall. Table 6 shows the prevalence of these behaviors in comparison with Six-State students. Among both groups of cadets “School Suspension” and “Attacked Someone with the Idea of Hurting Them” were the most prevalent antisocial behaviors.

The Prevalence of Risk and Protective Factors

Table 7 shows the average number of risk and protective factors on which Middle School and Standard Cadets reported elevated scores. On average, both groups of cadets reported elevated scores on 3.0 risk factors, which is lower than the Six-State population as a whole. Both Middle School and Standard Cadets reported an average of 2.0 protective factors, which is higher than the Six-State average.

Conclusions

This survey of Middle School and Standard Cadets appears to be based on valid self-report data from the Cadets. While there are some demographic differences between the Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and MTF/Six-State students, the three groups are generally comparable at specific grades , providing a valid basis for interpreting the survey results.

In general, both groups of cadets reported similar to lower levels of substance use than was found for MTF/Six-State students overall. The Middle School Cadets' use appeared slightly higher than Standard Cadets. This was evident for both lifetime prevalence and more recent 30 day use. Particularly among 8th graders, Middle School Cadets reported higher use for alcohol, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, marijuana, inhalant and illicit drug use in comparison to Standard Cadets. For the more serious illicit drugs, rates varied between the groups, however overall both groups were similar in their reported use. Middle School Cadets reported levels of delinquent activities which were slightly higher than Standard Cadets. However, overall both groups were similar to lower than the Six-State students overall.

Both groups of cadets reported a lower number of elevated risk and higher number of protective factors in their backgrounds as compared to the Six-State students. These findings are consistent with the Cadets' prevalence rates on many ATOD substances and delinquent behaviors as compared to the Six-State students. For further insights on the comparison between the cadet's specific risk and protective factor profiles, Figures 7 and 8 in the Middle School Cadet and Standard Cadet reports can be examined.

Table 1. The number of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets, and Six-State students, their average age, average family size, and percent English speaking at home, presented by gender and grade level.

Grade Level	Gender	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets				Six-State Students			
		Number of Students	Average Age	Average Family Size	English is Primary Language at Home	Number of Students	Average Age	Average Family Size	English is Primary Language at Home	Number of Students	Average Age	Average Family Size	English is Primary Language at Home
6th	Female	55	11.8	5.2	98%					11,079	11.5	4.1	96%
	Male	66	11.8	4.1	95%					11,022	11.6	4.1	96%
7th	Female	30	12.8	4.1	100%	4	12.3	5.5	75%				
	Male	51	12.8	4.2	96%	24	12.4	3.5	100%				
8th	Female	23	13.9	5.0	96%	7	13.1	4.6	100%	11,629	13.5	4.0	96%
	Male	36	13.8	4.8	94%	51	13.1	4.1	97%	11,340	13.7	4.0	96%
9th	Female					20	14.1	5.0	95%				
	Male					42	14.1	4.1	100%				
10th	Female					9	15.3	4.5	90%	8,060	15.5	4.6	97%
	Male					43	15.1	3.9	100%	7,634	15.6	4.5	97%
11th	Female					9	15.7	4.3	100%				
	Male					37	15.9	4.1	100%				
12th	Female					7	16.7	2.7	100%	5,927	17.3	4.5	97%
	Male					29	17.2	5.0	97%	5,926	17.5	4.5	97%
Combined	Female	111	12.6	4.9	98%	369	14.6	4.4	93%	36,695	14.1	4.2	97%
	Male	156	12.6	4.3	95%	330	14.6	4.1	99%	35,922	14.3	4.1	96%
	Total	267	12.6	4.6	97%	699	14.6	4.3	96%	72,617	14.1	4.1	96%

Table 2. The number of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets, and Six-State students by ethnicity and grade level.

Grade Level	Middle School Cadets							Standard Cadets							Six-State Students					
	Euro.- Amer.	Afric.- Amer.	Hisp.	Native Amer.	Asian/ Pac. Isl.	More Than One	Other	Euro.- Amer.	Afric.- Amer.	Hisp.	Native Amer.	Asian/ Pac. Isl.	More Than One	Other	Euro.- Amer.	Afric.- Amer.	Hisp.	Native Amer.	Asian/ Pac. Isl.	Other
6th	18.0%	66.0%	1.0%	9.0%	2.0%	2.0%	3.0%								75.2%	5.7%	7.4%	3.9%	2.4%	5.3%
7th	28.6%	56.0%	3.6%	3.6%	0.0%	3.6%	4.8%	59.4%	12.5%	6.3%	3.1%	0.0%	6.3%	12.5%						
8th	18.6%	69.5%	0.0%	1.7%	1.7%	5.1%	3.4%	62.3%	16.4%	3.3%	1.6%	4.9%	4.9%	6.6%	76.8%	5.2%	7.3%	3.2%	2.9%	4.6%
9th								80.0%	10.0%	1.4%	0.0%	1.4%	5.7%	1.4%						
10th								82.1%	5.4%	1.8%	0.0%	1.8%	7.1%	1.8%	81.8%	4.1%	6.9%	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%
11th								64.4%	11.1%	0.0%	6.7%	4.4%	8.9%	4.4%						
12th								79.5%	7.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	5.1%	5.1%	85.0%	4.0%	5.5%	1.6%	2.1%	1.8%
Combined	21.6%	63.6%	1.5%	5.2%	1.5%	3.0%	3.7%	71.3%	10.5%	2.6%	1.9%	2.1%	6.3%	5.3%	79.2%	4.6%	6.6%	3.0%	2.5%	4.0%

Table 3. The number of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets, and Six-State students in different family situations by gender and grade level.

Grade Level	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets				Six-State Students			
	Two Parent	One Parent	Other Adult	Foster Home	Two Parent	One Parent	Other Adult	Foster Home	Two Parent	One Parent	Other Adult	Foster Home
6th	38.2%	51.2%	9.8%	0.8%					68.1%	19.2%	10.2%	2.5%
7th	45.3%	48.8%	4.7%	1.2%	77.0%	20.0%	2.9%	0.0%				
8th	40.0%	51.7%	8.3%	0.0%	66.7%	28.6%	4.8%	0.0%	65.7%	19.5%	12.2%	2.5%
9th					66.7%	29.2%	2.8%	1.4%				
10th					71.9%	24.6%	3.5%	0.0%	66.2%	18.2%	12.4%	3.1%
11th					68.8%	29.2%	2.1%	0.0%				
12th					87.2%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%	68.8%	15.0%	11.5%	4.8%
Combined	41.1%	49.6%	8.6%	0.7%	73.1%	24.1%	2.7%	0.2%	67.1%	18.1%	11.7%	3.0%

Table 4. The percentage of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and MTF/Six State students reporting the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and inhalants for the past 30 days and ever in their lifetime. (A)

Substance	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets							MTF/Six State			
	6th	7th	8th	Comb.	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Comb.	6th	8th	10th	12th
Alcohol (Lifetime)	32%	40%	58%	40%	51%	49%	69%	69%	77%	77%	65%	38%	55%	72%	79%
Alcohol (12 months)	15%	22%	42%	23%	37%	35%	56%	54%	67%	51%	50%	28%	47%	65%	73%
Alcohol (30 day)	6%	6%	23%	10%	14%	14%	22%	22%	38%	26%	23%	11%	26%	40%	51%
Cigarettes (Lifetime)	26%	37%	55%	36%	23%	22%	35%	40%	46%	38%	33%	22%	49%	61%	64%
Cigarettes (30 Days)	4%	7%	12%	7%	0%	6%	8%	12%	13%	10%	8%	5%	21%	30%	34%
Chewing Tob. (Lifetime)	11%	7%	10%	10%	8%	8%	10%	16%	17%	15%	11%	11%	20%	27%	30%
Chewing Tob. (30 Days)	4%	0%	7%	4%	3%	0%	1%	5%	0%	3%	2%	3%	7%	9%	10%
Marijuana (Lifetime)	10%	9%	32%	14%	0%	5%	11%	10%	19%	15%	10%	4%	23%	40%	45%
Marijuana (12 months)	5%	2%	20%	7%	0%	3%	7%	0%	8%	5%	3%	4%	18%	34%	36%
Marijuana (30 Days)	4%	1%	10%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	1%	2%	11%	20%	22%
Inhalants (Lifetime)	9%	19%	18%	14%	14%	6%	13%	19%	23%	10%	14%	10%	21%	19%	17%
Inhalants (12 Months)	8%	12%	10%	9%	6%	3%	7%	3%	4%	3%	4%	10%	12%	10%	8%
Inhalants (30 Days)	6%	7%	7%	6%	3%	3%	0%	2%	2%	0%	2%	5%	6%	3%	3%

(A) All comparison data are taken from the Monitoring the Future Survey except for 6th grade data, which are taken from the Six-State Project.

Table 5. The percentage of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and MTF/Six State students reporting the use of illicit substances ever in their lifetime, and in the past 30 days. (B)

Substance	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets							MTF/Six State			
	6th	7th	8th	Comb.	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Comb.	6th	8th	10th	12th
Any Illicit Drug (ex. Marijuana-Lifetime)	14%	21%	22%	18%	23%	11%	19%	26%	27%	15%	20%	-	19%	26%	29%
Any Illicit Drug (ex. Marijuana-12 Months)	12%	13%	12%	12%	9%	8%	11%	10%	13%	5%	9%	-	13%	18%	20%
Any Illicit Drug (ex. Marijuana-30 Days)	7%	7%	8%	7%	6%	5%	0%	5%	6%	3%	4%	-	7%	9%	10%
LSD and Other Psychedelics (Lifetime)	1%	0%	3%	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	8%	3%	2%	1%	5%	9%	13%
LSD and Othe Psychedelics (12 Months)	1%	1%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%	1%	-	4%	7%	9%
LSD and Other Psychedelics (30 Days)	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%	1%	0%	2%	2%	3%
Cocaine (Lifetime)	0%	1%	3%	1%	0%	2%	3%	2%	2%	0%	1%	1%	5%	7%	7%
Cocaine (12 Months)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	-	3%	4%	5%
Cocaine (30 Days)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%
Crack Cocaine (Lifetime)	0%	1%	0%	0%	3%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	-	3%	3%	3%
Crack Cocaine (12 Months)	1%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-	2%	2%	2%
Crack Cocaine (30 Days)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-	1%	1%	1%

(B) All comparisons are taken from the *Monitoring the Future* Survey except for 6th grade data, which are taken from the Six-State Project.

Table 5. (Cont.) The percentage of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets, and MTF/Six-State students reporting the use of illicit substances ever in their lifetime, in the past year and in the past 30 days. (C)

Substance	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets							MTF/Six State			
	6th	7th	8th	Comb.	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Comb.	6th	8th	10th	12th
Amphetamines (Lifetime)	1%	0%	5%	1%	9%	2%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	-	14%	18%	15%
Amphetamines (12 Months)	0%	0%	3%	1%	3%	0%	3%	4%	4%	0%	2%				
Amphetamines (30 Days)	0%	0%	2%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	-	5%	6%	4%
Heroin (Lifetime)	0%	0%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	-	2%	2%	2%
Heroin (12 Months)	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%				
Heroin (30 Days)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-	1%	1%	1%
Other Narcotics (Lifetime)	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	2%	3%	4%	2%	0%	2%	-	5%	-	8%
Other Narcotics (12 Months)	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	5%	1%	2%	4%	0%	2%				
Other Narcotics (30 Days)	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	-	2%	-	2%
Barbiturates (Lifetime)	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	7%	9%	2%	0%	3%	-	3%	-	8%
Barbiturates (12 Months)	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	3%	7%	2%	0%	3%				
Barbiturates (30 Days)	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	1%	-	1%	-	2%
Hashish (Lifetime)	3%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%	3%	4%	4%	3%	1%	-	7%	-	-
Hashish (12 Months)	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	3%	1%				
Hashish (30 Days)	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	-	3%	-	-
Steroids (Lifetime)	0%	2%	2%	1%	0%	3%	1%	2%	2%	0%	1%	-	2%	2%	2%
Steroids (12 Months)	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%				
Steroids (30 Days)	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%	-	0%	1%	1%

(C) All data from *Monitoring the Future* Survey except eighth grade hashish data taken from the Six-State Project.

Table 6. The percentage of Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and Six-State students reporting that they engaged in specific delinquent behaviors in the past year.

Behavior	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets							Six-State			
	6th	7th	8th	Comb.	7th	9th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Comb.	6th	8th	10th	12th
Suspended from School	30%	32%	28%	29%	18%	19%	14%	13%	0%	5%	11%	6%	13%	11%	8%
Carried a Handgun	3%	2%	10%	4%	3%	2%	7%	7%	4%	16%	6%	4%	8%	8%	7%
Sold Illegal Drugs	3%	1%	9%	3%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	5%	1%	1%	5%	9%	8%
Stole Motor Vehicle	2%	5%	9%	4%	0%	2%	1%	4%	2%	3%	2%	2%	5%	5%	3%
Been Arrested	5%	5%	9%	6%	0%	3%	1%	5%	0%	3%	2%	3%	8%	8%	7%
Drunk or High at School	3%	4%	17%	6%	3%	3%	4%	7%	6%	13%	5%	2%	10%	18%	19%
Attacked Someone with the Idea of Hurting Them	16%	11%	18%	14%	3%	3%	4%	7%	6%	13%	10%	10%	16%	15%	13%
Taken a Handgun to School	1%	1%	3%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	3%	1%	1%	3%	3%	2%

Table 7. The number of elevated risk and protective factors for Middle School Cadets, Standard Cadets and Six-State students.

Risk & Protective Factor	Middle School Cadets				Standard Cadets							Six-State			
	7th	9th	11th	Comb.	7th	9th	10th	11th		Comb.		6th	8th	10th	12th
Risk Factors	2.5	2.9	4.2	3.0	2.0	2.2	3	2.9	4.2	3.6	3.0	1.6	3.0	3.8	4.0
Protective Factors	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.7	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.3	2.1	1.6	1.1	0.9	0.9